

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT

SUBJECT Material Shortages

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Decision of the Central Committee of the Party and of the Government.

- a. There is a shortage of raw materials and of other materials, but at the same time inventories are being accumulated at the factories. In most cases these shortages result from incorrect and inexact calculation of the required quantities of fuels and power.
- b. The lack of cooperation between ministries concerned with consumer goods and production ministries presents itself as a serious drawback. The former ministries are failing to place timely orders with the other ministries. On the other hand, the production ministries sometimes supply goods according to their own choice and not those asked for in the orders.
- c. Top officials and even ministers themselves display no sense of responsibility when securing supplies for their ministries. The Party and the Government have therefore made the ministers personally responsible.
- d. There is a general chaos at the ministries because statistical data on consumption and production are not available. Furthermore, fulfilment of the Plan is out of control.
- e. Technical conditions and production standards are inadequate.
- f. The work of the State Planning Office shows serious deficiencies. This office, whose function was to act as an objective organ of the Government, has been a complete failure.

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